

COLONEL RICHARD G. THOMPSON
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Gulf Region Central District
Commander and District Engineer

Colonel Richard G. Thompson serves as the Commander and District Engineer for the Gulf Region Central District in Baghdad, Iraq. Previously he served as the Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District.

He was born November 22, 1956 at Bridgeport, Conn., and after several moves graduated from high school in Upper St. Clair, Penn. He received a congressional appointment to the U. S. Military Academy, West Point, NY and upon graduation in 1978 was commissioned a Second Lieutenant. He subsequently earned a master of engineering degree from the University of California at Berkeley and is a registered engineer in North Carolina.

Colonel Thompson's military education includes the U. S. Army Engineer School, Basic and Advanced Courses, the Command and General Staff College and the Army War College.

His first assignments were to Engineer troop units in Germany where he served with the 54th Combat Engineer Battalion in Wildflecken and then moved to the 567th Engineer Company (Atomic Demolitions Munitions) in Hanau.

When he returned to the United States, he served as a company commander and staff officer with the 864th Engineer Battalion (Combat Heavy) at Fort Lewis, Wash. He served as a project engineer and project manager at the U. S. Army Engineer District in Chicago, Ill. before returning to the West Coast to serve as the Executive Officer and S-3 of the 13th Engineer Battalion (Light) at Fort Ord, Calif.

He was transferred from Fort Ord to Fort Bragg, North Carolina where he served as the Engineer Troop Commander for the 1st Special Forces Operating Detachment-Delta, before spending a year as the Director of Engineering for Joint Task Force-Bravo at Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras.

Upon his return to the United States he was assigned as the Commander of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in San Francisco, Calif. Following this assignment, he went to Alexandria, Virginia to the Total Army Personnel Command where he served as the Assignment Officer for Engineer Colonels, then on to Alaska where he served as the Director of Public Works.

His military awards consist of the Legion of Merit; two Defense Meritorious Service Medals; five Meritorious Service Medals; two Army Commendation Medals and numerous overseas and service ribbons. He also proudly wears the Parachutist's Badge and Ranger Tab.